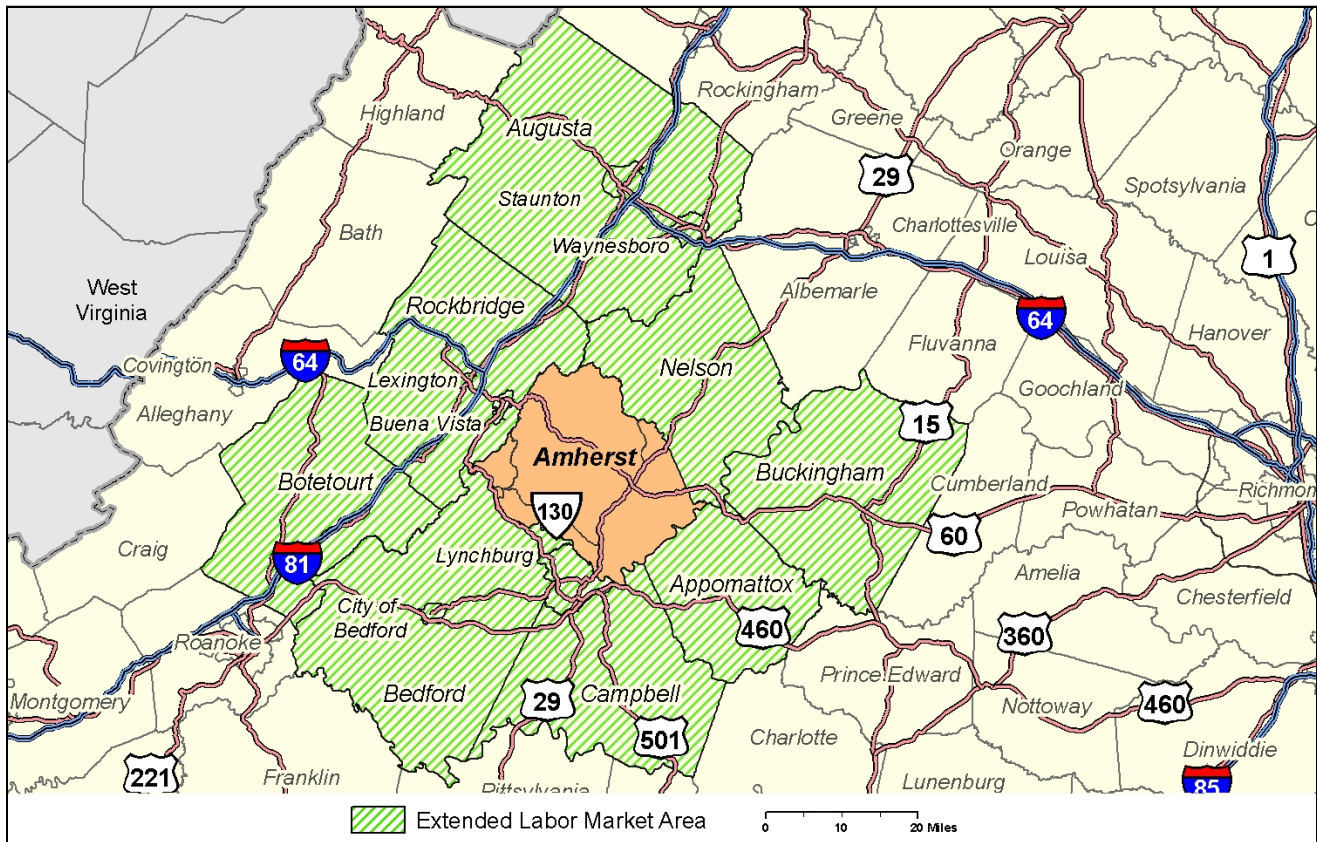


# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### LOCATION



Amherst County is located near the geographic center of Virginia just north of the city of Lynchburg. The James River borders the county on the south and east with the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains forming the western boundary. The Piney River comprises much of the county's northern boundary. The U.S. Route 29 corridor in the eastern region of the county has become the focal point for most commercial, industrial and residential development.

The county is part of the Lynchburg Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

Amherst County is 165 miles southwest of Washington, D.C.; 115 miles west of Richmond, the state capital; and 47 miles southwest of Charlottesville.

# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### LABOR MARKET DATA

#### Population

##### Gender Distribution

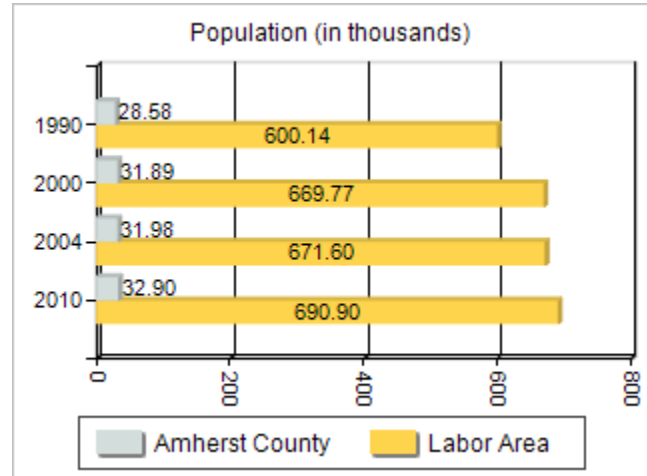
Amherst County	52.3% female
Surrounding Labor Area	51.3% female
47.7% male	
48.7% male	

##### Ethnic Distribution

Amherst County	22.3% nonwhite
Surrounding Labor Area	18.6% nonwhite
77.7% white	
81.4% white	

##### Median Age

Amherst County	38 years
----------------	----------



#### Civilian Labor Force (2004)

Amherst County	14,923
Surrounding Labor Area	310,964
Total	325,887

#### Labor Force Participation (2000 Census)

Amherst County	61.0%
Surrounding Labor Area	61.9%

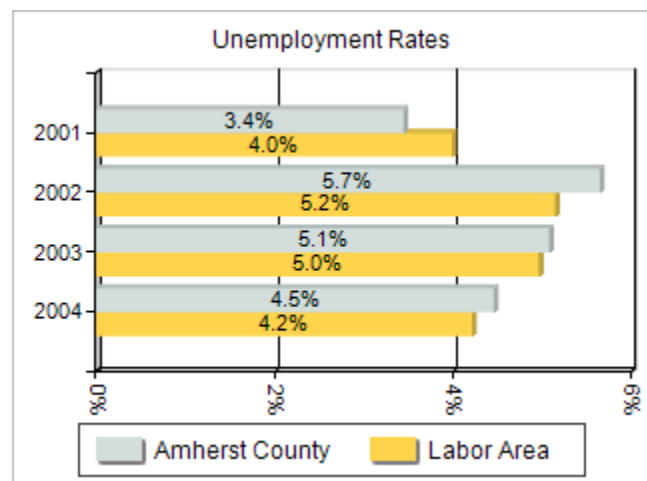
#### Unemployment

##### Unemployment Rate (Feb. 2006)

Amherst County	3.46%
Surrounding Labor Area	3.71%
Statewide	3.29%

##### Unemployed (2004)

Amherst County	507
Surrounding Labor Area	12,225
Total	12,732



# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### Commuting Patterns (2000 Census)

Live and work in Amherst County:	6,688	36.4%
Total In-Commuters:	3,945	21.4%
Total Out-Commuters:	7,762	42.2%
Net Out-Commuters:	3,817	

#### *In-Commuters From:*

Lynchburg City VA	1,627	46.7%
Campbell Co. VA	781	22.4%
Bedford Co. VA	414	11.9%
Appomattox Co. VA	336	9.6%
Nelson Co. VA	326	9.4%

#### *Out-Commuters To:*

Lynchburg City VA	5,393	77.4%
Campbell Co. VA	839	12.0%
Nelson Co. VA	349	5.0%
Bedford Co. VA	261	3.7%
Albemarle Co. VA	127	1.8%

### Additional Labor Resources

High school graduates not continuing (2004-2005) .....	103
Area community college graduates (2003-2004 ) .....	306
Area community college enrollees (2003-2004 ) .....	4,480
Other college and university graduates (2003-2004 ) .....	2,152
Total .....	7,041

### Educational Attainment

Percentage of Amherst County 2001-2002 ninth graders graduating in 2004-2005 .....	80.8%
Percentage of Amherst County population age 25+ who are high school graduates .....	70.6%
Percentage of Amherst County population age 25+ who have earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher .....	13.1%

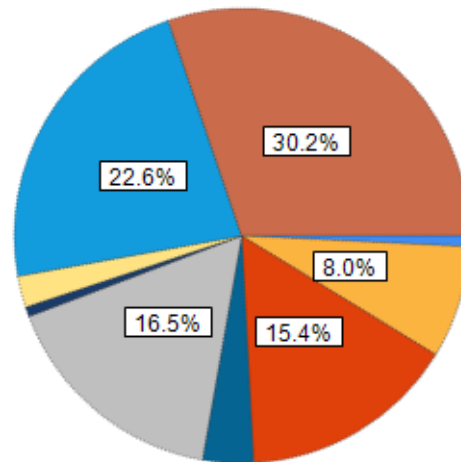
# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### Employment by Sector\* (3rd Qtr. 2005)

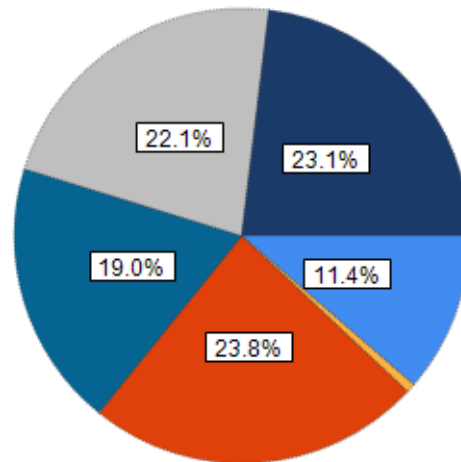
Natural Resources and Mining	75	0.8%
Construction	786	8.0%
Trade	1,519	15.4%
Transportation and Utilities	354	3.6%
Manufacturing	1,621	16.5%
Information	69	0.7%
Financial	219	2.2%
Services	2,227	22.6%
Government	2,977	30.2%
Total	9,847	100%



\*By Business Establishment

### Employment by Occupation\* (3rd Qtr. 2005)

Construction, Extraction & Maintenance	1,090	11.4%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	62	0.6%
Managerial, Professional & Related	2,284	23.8%
Production, Transportation & Material Moving	1,819	19.0%
Sales & Office	2,125	22.1%
Service	2,216	23.1%
Total	9,596	100%



\*By Business Establishment

### Major Employers

#### Manufacturing

Company	Product/Service	Est. Employment
Buffalo Air Handling Co.	Air handling equipment	100 - 299
England's Stove Works Inc.	Heating equipment	20 - 49
Glad Manufacturing Co.	Plastic bags & wraps	300 - 599
Greif Brothers Corp.	Corrugating medium & recycled linerboards	300 - 599
Hoppmann Corp.	Packaging machinery	50 - 99
Lynchburg Steel	Structural steel	100 - 299
Old Dominion Box Company, Inc.	Corrugated boxes	50 - 99

# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### Union Activity (1/2004 - 12/2005)

No Union Activity

### Estimated Earnings (November 2004)

Occupation	Med. Wage	Mean Wage	Med. Salary	Mean Salary
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	\$8.89	\$9.38	\$18,500.00	\$19,500.00
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	\$11.15	\$11.97	\$23,200.00	\$24,900.00
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	\$12.64	\$13.65	\$26,300.00	\$28,400.00
Team assemblers	\$11.54	\$13.27	\$24,000.00	\$27,600.00
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	\$20.43	\$21.97	\$42,500.00	\$45,700.00
Maintenance and repair workers, general	\$13.46	\$14.13	\$28,000.00	\$29,400.00
Carpenters	\$12.16	\$12.45	\$25,300.00	\$25,900.00
Office clerks, general	\$10.43	\$10.72	\$21,700.00	\$22,300.00
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	\$10.91	\$11.35	\$22,700.00	\$23,600.00
Stock clerks and order fillers	\$9.28	\$10.14	\$19,300.00	\$21,100.00
Receptionists and information clerks	\$9.71	\$9.95	\$20,200.00	\$20,700.00
Customer service representatives	\$10.00	\$11.30	\$20,800.00	\$23,500.00
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	\$12.02	\$12.40	\$25,000.00	\$25,800.00
First-line supervisors/managers of office & admin support workers	\$17.26	\$18.17	\$35,900.00	\$37,800.00
Sales reps, wholesale & manufacturing, ex technical & scientific products	\$22.79	\$27.79	\$47,400.00	\$57,800.00
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	\$8.85	\$9.13	\$18,400.00	\$19,000.00
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	\$14.57	\$14.76	\$30,300.00	\$30,700.00
Elementary school teachers, except special education	\$17.55	\$18.13	\$36,500.00	\$37,700.00
General and operations managers	\$28.17	\$32.36	\$58,600.00	\$67,300.00

### Per Capita Personal Income (2003)

\$22,055

### Median Family Income (2005)

\$53,050

## EDUCATION

### Public School Enrollment

Level	Number	Fall 2005 Enrollment
Elementary	7	2,256
Middle	2	1,099
High School	1	1,508

### Student Teacher Ratio (2004-05)

Elementary .....	12.7:1
Secondary .....	10.3:1
Percentage of 2001-2002 ninth grade membership graduating 2004-2005 .....	80.8%
Percentage of high school graduates continuing education 2004-2005 (including military) .....	70.2%

### Per Pupil Expenditure (FY 2005)

\$7,872.98

## VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

5



Every reasonable effort has been made to assure the accuracy of this report through the use of standardized, reliable data sources, including the community. However, the Partnership provides this information "as is," and therefore, assumes no liability arising from the use of this report or data.

# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### Workforce Development Facilities

Facility	Type
Region 2000 Career Center	Comprehensive Center

### Higher Education Facilities

Facility	Fall 2004 Enrollment
Liberty University	10,481
Central Virginia Community College	4,480
Lynchburg College	2,248
Randolph-Macon Woman's College	736
Sweet Briar College	552
Southern Virginia University	412
National College of Business & Technology - Lynchburg Campus	383
Virginia University of Lynchburg	258

## TRANSPORTATION

### Interstates

Name	Distance
I-81 .....	17.9 miles (28.8 km.)
I-64 .....	19.0 miles (30.7 km.)
I-581 .....	48.8 miles (78.6 km.)

Note: Measured from border of locality/region.

### Highways

Highway 130	Highway 151	Highway 210	Highway 29	Highway 48	Highway 501
Highway 60					

Note: 4-Lane US Highways located within locality/region.



# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### Commercial Air Service

**Lynchburg Regional Airport, Lynchburg, VA** ..... 6.6 miles (10.6 km.)

Delta Connection/ Atlantic Southeast Airlines                      US Airways Express

**Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport, Staunton, VA** ..... 33.7 miles (54.2 km.)

US Airways Express

**Roanoke Regional Airport, Roanoke, VA** ..... 35.3 miles (56.9 km.)

Atlantic Southeast Airlines    Comair                      Northwest Airlinck                      United Express  
US Airways

**Charlottesville-Albemarle Airport, Charlottesville, VA** ..... 41.9 miles (67.4 km.)

Comair/ Delta Connection    Northwest Airlines                      United Express                      US Airways Express

**Greenbrier Valley Airport, Lewisburg, WV** ..... 55.3 miles (88.9 km.)

Delta Air Lines                      US Airways

Note: Within 75 miles of nearest locality/region boundary.

### General Aviation Service

Name	Runway Length
Falwell Airport, Lynchburg, VA .....	2,900 ft (884 m)

### Freight Rail Service

Buckingham Branch Railroad  
Chesapeake & Western Railroad  
CSX Transportation  
Norfolk Southern Railway Company  
Shenandoah Valley Railroad  
Virginia Southern Railway

### Ports

Name	Distance
Port of Richmond .....	95.0 miles (152.9 km)
Norfolk International Terminals .....	164.0 miles (263.9 km)

Note: Measured from center of locality/region

## UTILITIES

### Electric

American Electric Power                      Central Virginia Electric Cooperative

### Natural Gas

Columbia Gas of Virginia

### Telecommunications

Verizon South                      Verizon-Virginia

# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



### Water

Amherst County Public Service Authority

Town of Amherst

### Waste Water Treatment

Amherst County Service Authority

Town of Amherst

### Solid Waste Disposal

Amherst County Sanitary Landfill

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

### Bank

### 1st Qtr 2005 Assets (in millions)

Wachovia Bank, N.A.	\$454,751.0
SunTrust Bank	\$136,163.0
BB&T Co. of Virginia	\$22,576.1
Bank of the James	\$179.3
Central National Bank	\$107.9

## GOVERNMENT

Amherst County has a County Administrator and a five-member Board of Supervisors.

The county has a comprehensive plan and zoning and subdivision ordinances.

The town of Amherst is the county seat. There are no other incorporated towns in the county.

## TAXES

Localities in Virginia collect a 1% sales tax. They do not tax other items taxed at the State level.

Counties and cities in Virginia are separate taxing entities. Therefore, a company pays taxes to either a county or to a city.

If a company is located in a town, it pays town and county taxes except for utility taxes which are paid only to the town and the license tax which is paid only to the town unless town law permits the additional collection of a county tax.

Manufacturers pay real estate, machinery and tools, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes.

Nonmanufacturers pay real estate, tangible personal property, truck and automobile, utility, and sales taxes. They also may pay either a merchants' capital or a license tax.

*Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Amherst) [51009 MFG.PDF](#)*

*Non-Manufacturer's Tax Profile (Amherst) [51009 NMFG.PDF](#)*

## CLIMATE

### Average Temperatures

January .....	37°F (3°C)
July .....	77°F (25°C)

### Average Annual Precipitation

Rainfall .....	40.66" (103.28 cm)
----------------	--------------------



# Amherst County, Virginia

## Community Profile



Snowfall ..... 18.80" (47.75 cm)

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Adjacent Lynchburg offers two major hospital facilities for Amherst County residents. Lynchburg General Hospital and Virginia Baptist Hospital collectively offer 768 beds and comprehensive medical services for the region. The University of Virginia Hospital is located in Charlottesville approximately 50 miles away.

Ten physicians and three dentists have offices established in the county. More than 200 physicians and 70 dentists representing more than 30 medical and surgical specialties serve the metropolitan area.

The Amherst County Health Department operates two public health clinics and provides nursing home care. Private nursing and extended care is available at two locations in the town of Amherst. Additional nursing and extended care facilities are located in nearby Lynchburg.

More than 50 churches representing most of the leading Protestant and Catholic denominations are located in Amherst County. A Greek Orthodox church and a Jewish synagogue are located in Lynchburg.

Amherst County residents are served by public libraries in the town of Amherst and in Madison Heights.

Seven shopping centers are available in Amherst County offering residents a wide variety of retail goods and services including department stores, supermarkets, furniture stores, appliances and many others. In addition, adjacent Lynchburg provides substantial shopping and entertainment options including a regional mall and numerous neighborhood retail centers distributed throughout the city.

## LIFESTYLE

Sweet Briar College is a major cultural center for the community. The college sponsors many concerts, lectures, and dramatic productions that are available to the general public. An annual tennis camp operated by Dennis Van der Meer is hosted by the college and draws participants from county residents and students from across the nation. The Lynchburg Fine Arts Center and other local colleges add to the cultural offerings within the region including art galleries, dance studios, theater, and musical entertainment.

The Amherst County Recreation Department directs a comprehensive countywide recreation program consisting of team sports, public park facilities, and special interest classes. The three Buffalo River Watershed Lakes covering over 400 acres at the base of the mountains provide a breathtaking setting for canoeing, fishing, and picnicking. The George Washington National Forest has numerous mountain streams with championship trout fishing along with excellent hunting opportunities featuring deer, turkey, and small game. The Appalachian Trail offers scenic and challenging trails for hikers. The Blue Ridge Parkway features dramatic views for the motorist along with historic sites and public camping areas.

Winton Country Club offers members excellent dining, swimming, and golf facilities. Its 18-hole championship golf course is also open to the public. The Izaak Walton league operates a private club

## Amherst County, Virginia

### Community Profile



in the county including swimming, camping, and picnicking facilities. Poplar Grove, a premier golf course designed by Sam Snead, is also located in the county. Wintergreen Resort, in adjoining Nelson County, showcases excellent winter skiing in addition to year-round vacation amenities.

Amherst County hosts several traditional annual festivals including the Garlic, Apple, and Sorghum Festivals and Monacan Indian Pow Wow, which draw thousands of patrons each year. The Amherst County Historical Museum, located in the town of Amherst, offers both permanent and temporary exhibits of historical events and artifacts relative to the county's history.